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# Library Service to LABOR

**NEWSLETTER** published by the Joint Committee on  
Library Service to Labor Groups, Adult Services Division,  
American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11

## Features in This Issue

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SERVICE TO LABOR GROUPS: An Organizational Chronology, by Roberta McBride . . . . .	p. 1
JOINT COMMITTEE EXHIBITS AT UNION- INDUSTRIES SHOW . . . . .	p. 2
WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS IN INDUSTRY: A Selected Reading List, by by Dorothy Kuhn Oke . . . . .	p. 3
ALA CONFERENCE IN CLEVELAND . . . . .	p. 5
NEWS AND NOTES . . . . .	p. 6
COMMITTEE MEMBERS . . . . .	p. 7

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SERVICE TO LABOR GROUPS:

AN ORGANIZATIONAL CHRONOLOGY

- July 1945. Proposed as follows: "The American Library Association proposes the appointment of a joint committee representing the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Grand Lodge Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, and the American Library Association. The overall objective would be to discover ways of encouraging and assisting public libraries to develop specialized library services which will be useful to labor . . . We propose the appointment of one person from each of the three unions and three librarians to represent the A.L.A."
- Oct. 1945. American Library Association Executive Board authorized the President to appoint such a committee. Members were: American Library Association -- Phillips Bradley, then Director, Extension, New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University; Paul Howard, then Director, American Library Association's National Relations Office; Harold W. Tucker, then assistant librarian, Gary (Indiana) Public Library; American Federation of Labor, Florence Thorne; Congress of Industrial Organizations, George Guernsey; John Connors, then Workers Education Bureau, New York, substitute in 1947-48 for Miss Thorne.
- Dec. 1946. Objectives of committee were suggested as follows:
1. The provision of adequate source material in research collections on various phases of the labor movement in this country and abroad.
  2. The operation of a joint program of education of local librarians and local labor leaders in the various fields in which cooperation is desirable; including the designation of one or two libraries for experimental work in labor education.
  3. The provision through libraries of objective and timely materials to secure public understanding of labor problems.
  4. The adequate provision of library materials for the use of labor organizations.
  5. The encouragement of greater library use by working people in general.
- (Above prepared by Paul Howard, December 2, 1946)
- June 1948. Statement of functions approved by American Library Association Council on the recommendation of the American Library Association Committee on Boards and Committees, as follows:
- To discover ways of encouraging and assisting public libraries to develop specialized library services which will be useful to labor groups.

July 1950. Made a standing committee by American Library Association Council on the recommendation of the Committee on Boards and Committees; in the following:

That as far as the American Library Association is concerned, the Joint Committee on Library Service to Labor Groups be accorded the continuity of a standing committee with the concurrence of the cooperating organizations.

Jan. 1954. Ruling on the size of the committee was made by American Library Association's Committee on Boards and Committees as follows:

"The Committee requested permission for the Committee to be enlarged to include a larger number of persons on the Committee; the Committee on Boards and Committees felt that this would be permissible without special permission since there were no stipulations as to size of membership when the committee was created."

Note: In 1954-56 the Joint Committee included 9 librarians: American Federation of Labor represented by John Connors and Joseph Mire, American Labor Education Service by Orlie Pell, Congress of Industrial Organizations by George Guernsey and Thomas Cosgrove.

Jan. 1957. Functions of this committee were made the responsibility of the Adult Education (later Adult Services) Division.

Jan. 1958. In the course of the organization of the committee structure of Adult Services Division the President ruled that the appointment and terms of American Library Association representatives on the committee be made consistent with those of other standing committees in the division and in accordance with Adult Services Division's Bylaws.

Roberta McBride  
Social Sciences Department  
Detroit Public Library

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#### JOINT COMMITTEE EXHIBITS AT UNION-INDUSTRIES SHOW

The Joint Committee on Library Service to Labor Groups, represented by its Chairman, Roberta McBride, exhibited at the Union-Industries Show which was held this year in Detroit's Cobo Hall, April 7-12, 1961. The theme of the exhibit was "Your Library Can Help Your Union."

Free space at the Show was provided by the AFL-CIO's Union Label Department, and local unions in Detroit contributed in many ways to make the exhibit a success. Typographical Union No. 18 assisted in the printing of a library brochure; Retail Clerks Local 836 helped in the preparation of copy for the brochure and other publicity; the Carpenters' District Council aided in the

building of the exhibit; IBEW Local 58 provided the necessary lighting; School Engineers Local 522 contributed to the purchase of materials for the exhibit; and AFSCME Local 1259, Detroit Public Library, designed the exhibit and manned it throughout the Show.

To explain services trade unionists may receive through their public libraries, the exhibit had blow-ups of photographs from New York, Baltimore, Chicago, Miami, and Detroit showing union groups browsing through book and pamphlet exhibits in libraries and in union halls, along with photographs of union members joining in open-air discussion groups, or consulting with librarians for advice in building their union libraries.

Booklists, prepared at the request of labor groups, were exhibited. They ranged from the Detroit Public Library's "The Shorter Work Week," to the Madison Public Library's "Labor Role in the Modern World," the Denver Public Library's "Booklist for Labor," and the Michigan State Library's "Civil Rights and Integration."

An opportunity was given to test one's "Labor IQ" at the exhibit through examples of the research questions often put to librarians. Among these questions were: "What was the highest building trades wage paid in 1960?" "What is the first recorded evidence of union activity in Detroit?" "Will your retirement pension go farther in Detroit or in Houston?"

Publications distributed included the Joint Committee's Memo containing suggestions for both libraries and unions for cooperative activities, and issues of the quarterly Library Service to Labor Newsletter; and AFL-CIO pamphlet Your Library Can Help Your Union; and Gold Mine on the Corner, the story of the Cincinnati Public Library which appeared in Catering Industry Employee, official journal of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union.

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#### Editor's Note:

In December 1960 the American Labor Education Service and the Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO jointly sponsored a Conference on White-Collar Workers in Industry. For this Conference Dorothy Kuhn Oke, Labor Education Specialist, The New York Public Library, prepared a suggested group of readings. Believing the list to be of use to our readers we have reprinted it below.

#### WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS IN INDUSTRY:

##### A SELECTED READING LIST

##### BOOKS

The American Class Structure, by Joseph E. Kahl. Rinehart & Co., New York, 1957.

The Office in Transition, by Esther R. Becker and Eugene F. Murphy.  
Harper & Brothers, New York, 1957.

Satisfaction in the White Collar Job, by Nancy C. Morse.

Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research,  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1953.

"Status of Clerical and Professional Workers", by Vera Shlakman.

in: Labor in Postwar America, Colston E. Warne, et al, Editors.  
Remsen Press, Brooklyn, New York, 1949.

White Collar, by C. Wright Mills. Oxford University Press, 1951.

White Collar or Moose?, by Leo F. Bollens, North River Press, New York, 1947.

#### PAMPHLETS OR ARTICLES

##### Unionization

Attitudes of White-Collar Workers Toward Unionization, by Robert J. Doolan.

in: Addresses on Industrial Relations, 1959 Series,  
Bulletin no. 27. Bureau of Industrial Relations,  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Experiences with White-Collar Unions, by T. S. Nurnberger.

in: Addresses on Industrial Relations, 1959 Series.  
(same as above)

Problems and Areas of Union Expansion in the White-Collar Sector,

by Benjamin Solomon, Industrial Relations Center, University of Chicago,  
Reprint no. 80. No date.

White Collar Union Contracts.

National Industrial Conference Board, New York, 1958.

"White Collar Unionism." Journal of Business, October 1954.

University of Chicago Press.

White Collar Unionism, Occasional Papers, no. 6, June 1955.

Industrial Relations Center, University of Chicago.

White Collar Unionization. Studies in Personnel Policy, no. 101.

National Industrial Conference Board, New York, 1949.

"Why White Collar Workers Can't Be Organized".

Harpers Magazine, April, 1957, p.43-50.

##### Working Conditions

Clerical Salaries in 18 Cities. Studies in Personnel Policy, no. 167.

National Industrial Conference Board, New York, 1958.

Comparative Job Performance by Age: Office Workers.

U.S. Department of Labor, 1960. Bulletin no. 1273.

Employment Outlook in Telephone Occupations.

U.S. Department of Labor, 1957. Bulletin no. 1215 - 30.



Labor Looks at the White Collar Worker.

Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO, Washington, 1957.

Office and Technical Workers Fact Book.

United Steelworkers of America, Pittsburgh, 1958.

"Office Fringe Benefits: They're Still Growing."

Management Review, March 1957, p.10-12.

Older Women as Office Workers.

U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau, Bulletin no. 248, 1953.

White Collar Worker in the American Economy, by Robert K. Burns.

Industrial Relations Center, University of Chicago, Reprint, no date.

Automation

Automation and Employment Opportunities for Office Workers.

U.S. Department of Labor, 1958, Bulletin no. 1241.

Automation and the White-Collar Worker, by Jack Stieber.

Labor and Industrial Relations Center, Michigan State University,  
East Lansing, 1957-58 Reprint Series.

Computer Automation and Work Environment and Employee Satisfaction,

by Einar Hardin. Labor and Industrial Relations Center, Michigan  
State University, East Lansing, 1960-61, Reprint Series no. 31.

Effects of Mechanisation and Automation in Offices, Report III.

Prepared by the International Labour Office, Geneva, 1959.

Office Automation and White-Collar Employment, by Georgina M. Smith.

Institute of Management and Labor Relations, Rutgers State University,  
Bulletin no. 6, 1957.

Dorothy Kuhn Oko  
Labor Education Specialist  
The New York Public Library

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ALA CONFERENCE IN CLEVELAND

As we go to press, plans are underway for the 1961 conference of the American Library Association to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, July 9 through July 15, 1961. The theme of the conference is "Libraries for All."

It is planned that at an open dinner meeting on Tuesday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m. the Joint Committee will celebrate its 15th Anniversary. Dinner speaker will be Lawrence M. Rogin, Director, Department of Education, AFL-CIO, whose subject will be "Library Service to Labor: Review and Preview."

A breakfast business meeting in Parlor M, Statler-Hilton Hotel at 8:30 a.m. on July 11, is set for committee members. At 2:00 p.m. on the same day at the Hollenden Hotel the Joint Committee is meeting with top union officials in the Cleveland area to explain the program of the Committee.

On Thursday, July 13, the Joint Committee is sponsoring a tour of the Cleveland offices of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union beginning at 2:00 p.m. Prior to the tour, at 1:00 p.m., the Union will serve a buffet luncheon to the first 100 registrants. Following the tour there will be a symposium on how libraries fit into labor education programs. All librarians are cordially invited to attend.

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#### NEWS AND NOTES

A column entitled "Book Views" appears monthly in 65 News, official paper of Chicago's Local 65, United Steelworkers of America. This regular feature, listing books of interest to members of Local 65, is written by Violette Dean of the Chicago Public Library.

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Children visiting the Louisville Free Public Library are in for a delightful surprise these days as the result of a gift from the Kentucky State AFL-CIO. Several unusual life-size, papier-mache animals made for the state AFL-CIO exhibit at the Kentucky State Fair were sent by the state body to the library's children's department at the close of the Fair.

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The U.A.W.'s Local 259 News reports that the Education Committee of Local 259 donated five sets of books to the public libraries of Manhattan, Queens, Bronx, Brooklyn, and Stamford, Connecticut, as part of the U.A.W.'s book program.

The sets include "Practice of Unionism," by Jack Barbash, "As Unions Mature," by Richard Lester, "Labor on the March," by Edward Levinson, "This Union Cause," by Katherine Shippen, and "Labor in America," by Harold Faulkner and Mark Starr.

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The March 27 - April 2, 1961 issue of Milwaukee Reader issued by the Milwaukee Public Library is devoted to the subject "Labor Force Statistics." In addition to describing some of the current statistics on employment and unemployment, the Reader notes significant books and periodicals that report or analyze such statistics.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs. Roberta McBride, Detroit Public Library, Detroit 2, Mich., Chairman

Mrs. Mary Backer, Branch 13, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.,  
Secretary

Virginia Bowles, Library Association of Portland, Portland, Oregon

John Connors, Administrative Representative, AFL-CIO, 815 16th Street N.W.,  
Washington 6, D. C.

John Cosgrove, Assistant Director, Department of Education, AFL-CIO, 815  
16th Street N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Bernard F. Downey, Librarian, Institute of Management and Labor Relations,  
Rutgers - The State University, New Brunswick, N. J., Editor

Mrs. Helga Eason, Miami Public Library, Miami 32, Florida

Francis Henson, Education Director, Great Lakes Territory, International  
Association of Machinists, 1336 National City Bank Bldg., Cleveland 14,  
Ohio

Mrs. Esther I. Hughes, Public Library of Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa

Richard Kendzierski, Education Staff, Michigan Industrial Union Council  
(AFL-CIO), Detroit 2, Michigan

Joseph Klimberger, Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn 38, New York

Carl J. Megel, President, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, 28 E. Jackson  
Blvd., Chicago 4, Ill.

Mrs. Hester Mitchell, Ipswich Public Library, Ipswich, Massachusetts

Mrs. Dorothy Kuhn Oko, Labor Education Specialist, The New York Public  
Library, New York 19, N. Y.

Julius Rothman, Community Services Activities, AFL-CIO, 9 East 40th St., New  
York 16, N. Y.

Bernard Schwab, Madison Public Library, Madison, Wisconsin